PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Food Plants International: Seeds - caution

Prunus napaulensis (Ser.) Steud

GENUS *Prunus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Nepalese cherry, Khasi cherry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The ripe fruit are eaten. They are eaten raw or cooked. They are also made into juice.
The seeds are cooked and eaten providing they are not too bitter due to cyanide. Cooking can remove cyanide.
The fruit are also used for wine to give a purple colour.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 20 m tall. The bark is smooth and dark brown. The leaves are 6-18 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. They have fine teeth along the edge. The flowers are white and in long terminal clusters. . The fruit are oval and 15 mm long by 13 mm wide. They become purplish-black when ripe. There is one large seed.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows between 1,600-2,600 m above sea level in the Himalayas. In Nepal it grows between 1600-3000 m altitude. It is frost hardy. In Sichuan and Yunnan. It suits hardiness zones 6-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In China plants flower in April and fruit in July. In the Indian Himalayas flowers occur in October to November and fruit mature August and September.

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